

REMARKS

By this response Applicants have cancelled all of the previously presented claims in the above-identified application and have now presented two new claims which are set forth in great detail. Applicants respectfully submit that new independent Claim 34 and its dependent Claim 35 are patentable over the prior art for the reasons discussed herein.

New Claim 34 requires that the first light is reflected at 90° at only one time by the claimed first mirror in a path wherein the first light reaches the first image bearing member; and, that the second light is similarly reflected to the second image bearing member, wherein the light axes for first and second lenses disposed in the respective paths are in parallel. Also, the pitch arrangement between the two reflecting mirrors is the same as the pitch arrangement between the two image bearing members.

In the cited prior art, however, Applicants note that the Nakashima patent discloses only a single diode 1, thereby failing to disclose Applicants' claimed pitch arrangement between the first and second image bearing members.


The cited Nagasaki patent, on the other hand, discloses respective pluralities of photosensitive drums and mirrors, but the claimed requirement that the first and second lights are reflected by the first and second mirrors at 90° only once in their paths to the image bearing members is not disclosed by Nagasaki.

Also, referring to the cited Koide patent, Applicants stress that that reference does not disclose a lens between the mirrors and the scanned surface as claimed in the newly submitted Claims 34 and 35.

For all of these various reasons, it is believed that Claims 34 and 35 are allowable,
and the issuance of a formal Notice of Allowance is solicited.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our New York Office by
telephone at (212) 218-2100. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our address
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Respectfully submitted,



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